

CLAIMS

1. A chip card, comprising:
 - a card body (10), and
 - a chip module (12) embedded in said card body and incorporating an
5 Integrated circuit,
said card body including at least one security feature (20, 22) incorporated
in a layer, or applied on a surface, of the card body,
wherein said card body comprises an additional tamper-detection layer
(26) including a conductive pattern (28) forming an electrical loop con-
10 nected between terminals (34, 36) of the integrated circuit, said conduc-
tive pattern having at least one region (30, 32) located beneath or above
said security feature (20, 22),
and wherein said integrated circuit is adapted to perform an integrity check
of said conductive pattern for conditionally performing further operations
15 only in case said integrity is recognized.
2. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said conductive pattern (28) has a
given impedance or resistance and said integrated circuit is adapted to
check whether said impedance or resistance matches a predetermined
20 value stored in a memory of the integrated circuit.
3. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said chip card includes contactless
communication features and said conductive pattern (28) is part of a
tuned circuit co-operating with said integrated circuit for contactless com-
25 munication.
4. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said at least one security feature
(20, 22) is a feature from the group including photograph (20), hologram,
multiple laser image, laser engraving, UV/IR-readable pattern and mag-
30 netically-readable encoding.
5. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said conductive pattern is made
from a conductive ink material.

6. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said conductive pattern is made from a transparent or near transparent material.

5 7. The chip card as in claim 1, wherein said conductive pattern (28) is connected to said terminals (34, 36) of the integrated circuit through permanent bonds.